

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 00820 011819Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
EB-08 STR-04 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 /065 W

-----011822Z 009595 /53

O 011755Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8828

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 820

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OTRA, PFOR, SP
SUBJECT: OSORIO VISIT TO U.S.

1. THE INFORMAL VISIT TO THE US OF SECOND VICE PRESIDENT ALFONSO OSORIO RECEIVED STEADY COVERAGE IN THE MADRID PRESS FROM THE TIME HE ARRIVED THERE. THE THEMES OF EACH DAY'S ACCOUNTS WERE INVARIABLY THE HIGH LEVEL AT WHICH HE WAS BEING OR WOULD BE RECEIVED, AND THE HIGH LEVEL OF INTEREST, SYMPATHY, AND ENCOURAGEMENT REGARDING THE SPANISH DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS THAT OSORIO ENCOUNTERED IN BOTH THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES. THERE WAS PHOTOGRAPHIC COVERAGE OF THE CHAT WITH PRESIDENT CARTER AND OF THE MEETINGS WITH SECRETARY VANCE AND DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER.

2. THIS CENTRAL THEME WAS STRESSED BY OSORIO UPON HIS RETURN TO MADRID, WHICH ALSO GOT HEAVY PRESS PLAY. NOTING THAT HE HAD NOT CUT HIS TRIP SHORT (DESPITE THE TERRORIST ACTS HERE) BECAUSE PRIME MINISTER SUAREZ DECIDED HE SHOULDN'T, OSORIO EMPHASIZED PRESIDENT CARTER'S "FAVORABLY INTERESTED CONCERN FOR ALL SPAIN'S PROBLEMS" AND ALSO SPOKE OF THE PRESIDENT'S "EXTRAORDINARY PERSONALITY, SYMPATHY, AND ATTRACTIVENESS". OSORIO SAID HE AND SECRETARY VANCE

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HAD "ANALYZED THE CURRENT SPANISH POLITICAL SITUATION AND THE VARIOUS PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE". IN HIGHLIGHTING OUR SYMPATHY FOR DEMOCRATIZATION, HE INDICATED THE U.S. WAS OF COURSE NOT INTERFERING IN SPANISH NATIONAL AFFAIRS. OSORIO REPORTEDLY SAID HE DETECTED A NUANCE OF DIFFERENCE ON U.S. ATTITUDES TOWARDS EURO-COMMUNISM. HE ALSO SAID HE HAD BROUGHT UP THE ISSUE OF U.S. RESTRICTIONS ON THE IMPORT OF SHOES. AND

ACCORDING TO ONE PAPER HE SAID HE RASIED IT, "ALTHOUGH IN PASSING", WITH THE SECRETARY.

3. THE OSORIO VISIT CAME AT THE SAME TIME AS A SPATE OF TERRORIST ACTS DESIGNED TO SHAKE THE DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS, ACTS WHICH LEFT MADRID SHOCKED AND ANXIOUS. THROUGHOUT THIS TENSE PERIOD, OSORIO WAS BEING QUOTED AS FINDING AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE USG INTEREST, SYMPATHY AND ECOURAGEMENT FOR DEMOCRATIZATION. THIS SYMBOLIC MANIFESTATION OF U.S. SUPPORT DURING A TIME OF TROUBLES GAVE A PSYCHOLOGICAL BOOST TO THAT PROCESS AND TO THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT WHICH IS ENTRUSTED WITH CARRYING IT OUT. STABLER

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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TAGS: OTRA, PFOR, SP, US, (OSORIO, ALFONSO)
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